

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COA-02 COME-00 INT-08 EB-11 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-07 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /121 W

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R 230915Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2077

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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DEPT PASS NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EFIS, ETRN, JA, CH

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON GOJ/PRC FISHING AND SHIPPING AGREEMENT PROGRESS

SUMMARY: GOJ AND PRC HAVE EXCHANGED DRAFTS ON FISHERIES AGREEMENT AND TALKS START MAY 23. GOJ AND PRC APPEAR HAVE SOME DIFFERENCE IN VIEW OF WHAT AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN. GOJ WOULD LIKE CONCLUDE TREATY BY JUNE 22, BUT DOES NOT CONSIDER THIS IMPERATIVE. NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE SINCE SUMMER 1973 ON SHIPPING AGREEMENT AND GOJ IS NOT PUSHING FOR TALKS AT THIS TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPAN AND PRC WILL BEGIN TODAY (MAY 23) TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL CONTENTS OF FISHERIES AGREEMENT. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO PEKING OGAWA WILL BE HEAD OF JAPANESE DELEGATION TO  
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THESE TALKS, BUT DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HANDLED

BY KAZUO YASUFUKU, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE FISHERIES AGENCY AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE DELEGATION, AND GROUP OF TEN EXPERTS WHO LEFT JAPAN ON MAY 21 FOR PEKING.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED OUTLOOK FOR FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WITH OGURA, DEPUTY HEAD, CHINA DIVISION, FONOFF, ON MAY 22. OGURA CONFIRMED THAT GOJ AND PRC HAD EXCHANGED ROUGH DRAFTS ON MAY 15 AND STATED THAT FIRST PROBLEM FOR GOJ WAS CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH TREATY WOULD BE DRAWN. GOJ DRAFT FOLLOWED NORMAL INTERNATIONAL PATTERN FOR FISHERIES AGREEMENTS, WHILE PRC DRAFT CLOSELY FOLLOWED PATTERN OF UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN JAPANESE FISHING INTERESTS AND PRC WHICH HAS GOVERNED GOJ/PRC FISHERIES RELATIONSHIPS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS. UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT COVERS, IN DETAIL, OPERATION OF FISHING VESSELS, NIGHT MARKINGS, AND HOST OF OTHER MATTERS THAT GOJ DOES NOT FEEL WOULD BE APPROPRIATE IN FORMAL TREATY.

3. REGARDING ACTUAL DETAILS TO BE INCLUDED IN TREATY, SUCH AS FISHING AREAS, CATCH LIMITS, AND FISHING PERIODS, OGURA SAID THAT FONOFF DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH MATTERS HAD NOT BEEN SPELLED OUT IN DETAIL IN DRAFTS ALREADY EXCHANGED AND REMAINED SUBJECT FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. ON TIMING FOR CONCLUSION OF TREATY, OGURA SAID THAT, AS REPORTED IN PRESS, GOJ WOULD LIKE TO CONCLUDE TREATY PRIOR TO JUNE 22 EXPIRATION OF PRESENT UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT. IN THIS RESPECT, HE SAID THAT JUNE 22 DATE WOULD BE CONVENIENT, BUT GOJ WOULD NOT MAKE ANY LARGE CONCESSIONS TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT BY THAT DATE. HE SAID THAT, IF IT APPEARED THAT AGREEMENT COULD NOT BE REACHED BY JUNE 22, GOJ WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO FISHING CONTINUING UNDER EXTENSION OF PRESENT UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT, OR EVEN TO RENEGOTIATING UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL YEAR. (EMBASSY COMMENT: WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT GOJ IS QUITE AS RELAXED ON TIMING AS OGURA STATEMENT WOULD INDICATE. A SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REACHING AGREEMENT ON FISHING WOULD THROW OFF GOJ HOPES TO SHOW CONTINUING PROGRESS IN ITS RELATIONS WITH PRC.)

5. OGURA NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER PROGRESS ON A SHIPPING AGREEMENT, LAST OF THE FOUR AGREEMENTS CALLED FOR IN THE SEPTEMBER 1972 COMMUNIQUE. OGURA NOTED THAT, SINCE DRAFT AGREEMENTS EXCHANGED IN SUMMER 1973, NO FURTHER TALKS ON THIS MATTER HAD BEEN HELD.

GOJ BELIEVES THIS DUE TO PRC DESIRE NOT TO SET PRECEDENT THAT MIGHT HAVE HAD IMPACT UPON CIVIL AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS. SINCE SHIPPING IS, IN FACT, NOT AFFECTED BY ABSENCE OF SHIPPING AGREEMENT, GOJ HAS NOT PRESSED PRC ON THIS ISSUE. FOR PRESENT GOJ WOULD PREFER TO CONCENTRATE ON FISHERIES AGREEMENT, BUT, IF FISHERIES TALKS APPEAR TO BE DRAGGING, GOJ WILL RAISE SHIPPING AND CARRY ON NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHING AND SHIPPING IN PARALLEL.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: ATMOSPHERE IN FONOFF CHINA DIVISION HAS NOTICEABLY RELAXED FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF AVIATION AGREEMENT. AT THIS STAGE FONOFF DOES NOT DISPLAY ANY CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE OBSTACLES TO SMOOTH CONCLUSION OF REMAINING TWO AGREEMENTS AND DOES NOT APPEAR TO FEEL IT IS UNDER PRESSURE TO COME UP WITH POSITIVE RESULTS IN ANY PARTICULAR TIME FRAME.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENT DRAFT, FISHERIES, FISHERIES MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974TOKYO06759  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740129-0139  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740522/aaaaasyu.tel  
**Line Count:** 132  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UPDATE ON GOJ/PRC FISHING AND SHIPPING AGREEMENT PROGRESS SUMMARY: GOJ AND PRC HAVE EXCHANGED DRAFTS ON FISHERIES  
**TAGS:** EGEN, EFIS, ETRN, JA, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005